

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Hurricane Sandy - Polrep/Sitrep



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region II**

Subject: **SITREP #4**
 Planning Continues, First Deployment of Resources
 Hurricane Sandy

Edison, NJ
Latitude: 40.4494047 Longitude: -74.4379073

To: Michael Hoppe, USEPA Region 02, ERRD-RPB

Thru: REOC Deputy Regional Incident Coordinators,
 Christopher Jimenez, NJ
 Michael Ferriola, NY

From: REOC Situation Unit Leader,
 Keith Glenn

Date: 11/1/2012

Reporting Period: 1400 October 31, 2012 through 1400 November 1, 201

Executive Summary

The Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) remains fully staffed with all key leadership positions filled. EPA is currently working off of three (3) Mission Assignments, one based for New Jersey support and two for New York. One of the MAs issued for New York State includes assistance with the dewatering of tunnels and subways throughout New York City. Two OSCs are working with New York City officials and Army Corp. of Engineers personnel on dewatering activities.

The REOC is awaiting the issuance of several Mission Assignments for New York and New Jersey. Although generated for approval, the paperwork has not been signed. These Mission Assignments will authorize the released of pre-designated teams of OSCs and contractor support for reconnaissance, response, and recovery operations.

The REOC and IMT have been working to address concerns over drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities located in the impact zone. EPA Regions 1 and 2 water program staff have been conducting telephonic surveys of water facilities in New Jersey and coordinating information with NJDEP. A more comprehensive understanding of facility operational status and additional needs is being generated with the assistance of regional water personnel and Headquarters.

The Region 2 EPA laboratory remains non-operational due to power outages. The Emergency Laboratory Network has been activated and is maintaining a list of functioning laboratories in the area. Additional assets include EPA laboratories in other regions.

Fuel waivers have been issued by EPA Headquarters to permit the use of home heating fuel as a substitute for diesel and the use of out-of-Region gasoline. This has been done due to fuel shortages in the area. Additional fuel waivers are currently being processed.

EPA is anticipating an increase of activities once Mission Assignments are generated.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:		Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	Stafford Act	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	FEMA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	10/29/2012	Start Date:	10/29/2012
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Hurricane Disaster Response

1.1.2 Site Description

1.1.2.1 Location

Eight counties have been declared eligible for Public Assistance in new Jersey: Atlantic, Cape May, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Union.

Seven counties have been declared as eligible for Public Assistance in New York State: Bronx, Kings, Nassau, New York, Queens, Richmond, and Suffolk.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Releases of oil and chemicals as a direct result of high winds and flooding.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

No preliminary damage assessments have been conducted at this time.

1.2 Incident Objectives

- 1) The health and safety of our responders is the highest priority. Develop HASPs and safety messages daily for applicable operations.
- 2) Ensure health and safety of the public by conducting environmental assessments, controlling hazards, and operating in accordance with the approved site safety and quality assurance sampling plans.
- 3) Conduct aggressive air, ground and water recon and investigation activities to identify active and potential pollution targets, as well as confirm extent of hurricane damage to oil and chemical facilities and critical infrastructure.
- 4) Rapidly control, contain and mitigate all sources of pollution threatening or impacting public health and the environment, to include the navigable waterways. Coordinate actions with the States
- 5) Manage a coordinated response effort with local, state, federal and industry partners and ensure adherence to policies, practices and plans of each. Assure that all stakeholders are informed of response activities and enhance proactive media and community outreach programs.
- 6) Manage a financial system that ensures accurate, efficient and effective accounting of resources continually monitor ESF #10 funds and adjust operations as needed.

1.3 Critical Resource Needs

No information available at this time.

1.4 Strategic Considerations

No information available at this time.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

DIVISION NEW JERSEY

Eight counties have been declared eligible for Public Assistance in new Jersey: Atlantic, Cape May, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Union.

EPA is waiting on approval of Mission Assignments to authorize reconnaissance and response actions supporting water facility assessments, material recovery, and hazardous material collection. Teams of OSCs have been designated and are on standby.

NEW JERSEY RESPONSE ACTIONS

EPA is consolidating data received from telephonic surveys of drinking water treatment facilities collected by NJDEP and EPA personnel. This information will be used to address any needs these facilities may have in efforts to reestablish normal operating procedures for providing water services in New Jersey.

EPA is working on creating a database of consolidated notifications to EPA and NJDEP. In efforts to limit duplicative response actions, the database will ensure that all parties are able to view and edit notifications generated through all EPA and NJDEP assets.

Phillips 66 Linden

The facility reported an unknown amount of oil released into a nearby waterway. Oil impacted a cemetery along with wildlife. NJDEP personnel responded to the facility along with facility response contractors. Tri-County personnel were deployed to work with oil covered animals. Although the facility is located within the USCG response jurisdiction zone, the REOC remains aware of the situation.

Motiva Sewaren

The previous Situation Report listed a release volume of approximately 8,000 gallons from the facility into the Arthur Kill. The correct estimate is 311,000 gallons of diesel fuel released into the waterway. The USCG and NJDEP have been working with the PRP on response and recovery efforts at this facility. Although located within the USCG response jurisdiction zone, EPA remains vigilant of clean-up operations and remains in coordinated efforts with NJDEP.

Below is a summary table for NJ Incident Reports as reported by the National Response Center and calls received in the REOC. This information is current as of 1500 hours on 11/01/2012. The table includes the materials involved.

New Jersey Incidents			
Number of Notifications to EPA			
Material Type	Reporting Operational Period	Previous Totals	Grand Totals
Oil	10	33	43
Other	0	3	3
Haz	0	2	2
Operational Period Total	10	38	48

DIVISION NEW YORK

Seven counties have been declared as eligible for Public Assistance in New York State: Bronx, Kings, Nassau, New York, Queens, Richmond, and Suffolk.

The REOC is anticipating the approval of Mission Assignments for HHW and orphan container reconnaissance and recovery. Deployment teams are on standby and at the ready.

NEW YORK RESPONSE ACTIONS

Two OSCs have been deployed to Brooklyn, NY for dewatering activities. EPA is providing technical assistance to the Army Corp. of Engineers and officials from the City of New York on activities. Priorities include the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel, the World Trade Center transit hub, and other subway stations.

EPA is reviewing the status of wastewater treatment plants in New York Regions 1, 2 and 3. These regions are all located within the Public Assistance Declared areas of New York State.

Below is a summary table for NY Incident Reports as reported by the National Response Center and calls received in the REOC. This information is current as of 1500 hours on 11/01/2012. The table includes the materials involved.

New York Incidents			
Number of Notifications to EPA			
Material Type	Reporting Operational Period	Previous Totals	Grand Totals
Oil	6	41	47
Other	0	8	8
Haz	0	0	0
Operational Period Total	6	49	55

CUMULATIVE HAZARDOUS WASTE SUMMERY TABLE

Currently, no containers or waste have been collected for Hurricane Sandy operations. This table will be used when Mission Assignments are generated for HHW and orphan container collection is requested by New Jersey and/or New York.

EPA REGION 2 COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

EPA Region 2 is currently manning the following coordination centers;

FEMA RRCC (Earle, NJ) – (1) OSC coordinating with State and federal partners with obtaining and processing Mission Assignments.

FEMA IMAT (Albany, NY) – (1) OSC coordinating with the State and FEMA on activating Mission Assignments for NY State.

NJ State EOC (WestTrenton, NJ) – (1) OSC coordinating and assisting with State “Requests for Assistance” (RFAs) and Mission Assignments for NJ State.

NYC OEM (Brooklyn, NY) – (1) OSC coordinating dewatering activities with NYC and Army Corp. of Engineers.

EPA Region 2 REOC (Edison, NJ) - Coordinating efforts related to operations, planning, resources, and logistics from the REOC. The REOC is staging and coordinating the deployment of operational resources including EPA ERRS and RST contractor support. The REOC is manning the Regional Hotline phone and addressing follow-up and response actions to incidents both related and unrelated to the impacts of Hurricane Irene. The REOC is tracking situational information related to RFAs and changing conditions on the ground.

REGULATED FACILITIES

A spreadsheet has been developed to track the status of facilities possibly impacted by Hurricane Sandy. This information includes facility contact person information, latitude and longitude, and description of release circumstances and cleanup efforts, and whether any EPA assistance is requested. The marker for EPA assistance is whether a regulated substance has been released into navigable waters and/or the environment.

Regulatory Program	Number of Facilities Contacted	Number of Facilities Reached	Report of Facility Releases
FRP	11	11	2
RMP	10	6	0
Total	21	17	2

The two facilities that reported releases are the Kinder Morgan Carteret Terminal and the Motiva Sewaren facility. These facilities are being addressed by NJDEP and/or USCG. These facilities are located within USCG jurisdiction.

2.2 Planning Section

EPA continued to staff the Region 2 Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC). An Incident Management Team (IMT) continues to work with Regional and RST support. Resources have developed response teams and received geographic assignments for when Mission Assignments are issued. Region 2 staff is coordinating with Regions 1,3, and 6 in efforts to provide OSCs for reconnaissance, response, and recovery operations in New York and New Jersey.

Maps are being generated for various and anticipated requests. Surge area maps, regulated facility maps, resource maps, and status maps indicating any concerns at removal and remedial sites are being created. The Region 2 FlexViewer is currently deployed in the Situation Unit and is being updated to include pertinent information.

2.3 Logistics Section

Logistics has been working on securing vehicles for responders, obtaining fuel for the vehicles, and obtaining fuel to provide power to REOC emergency generators. Logistics has also been working with telecommunications to ensure satellite phones and other means of communication are functional. All logistical needs are being handled through the REOC at this time.

EPA has been in contact with AT&T as most cellular and blackberry devices utilized by EPA personnel operate under this network provider. Cellular service has been inconsistent, yet improving. Many towers have been damaged and repairs have been slow. AT&T just announced that they and T-Mobile will start to share transmission towers and improvements should be seen soon.

2.4 Finance Section

EPA continues to track costs and monitor funding levels against FEMA Mission Assignments. Current Mission Assignments and Estimated Expenditures and Daily Cost Burn as of 11/01/2012 @ 1130 hours;

Region, State	Agreement #	Agreement Date	Agreement Amount	Costs Incurred To Date	Estimated Burn Rate (\$/day)	Purpose
Region, 2 NY	NY-12102504-EPA-01	10/27/2012 through 11/01/12	\$5,000	\$5,000		NY ROC Support/Assessment
Region, 2 NJ	4086DR-NJ-EPA-01	10/30/2012 through 11/10/12	\$50,000	\$50,000		NJ ROC Support/Assessment
			\$55,000	\$55,000		

	Mission Assignment Funds Depleted
	Reconfirmation of MA Funding Obligations Necessary (Ceiling increase or separate funding streams)

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

The Safety Officer has generated and distributed a Health and Safety Plan to all incident personnel. A safety message regarding the utilization of satellite phones was also distributed. The SO generated a pre-deployment vehicle resource load-out list and distributed it to response teams.

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

A Liaison Officer has not yet been assigned however coordination activities are being done at several locations and with multiple Federal and State Agencies.

2.5.3 Information Officer

Pat Seppi is the Public Information Officer and can be reached at 646-369-0068. Public Affairs is working on generating a statement to share with residents of Gowanus (Brooklyn, NY) regarding precautions to take if they were impacted by flooding. Public Affairs is also gathering information on flooding, mold, and HHW previously created that may be used in Hurricane Sandy response activities.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Unified Command is currently not activated at this level.

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

EPA is currently coordinating with FEMA, NYS DEC, NJ DEP, NYSEMO, NJOEM, County officials, and local government agencies.

4. Personnel On Site

Numbers associated with personnel working on Hurricane Sandy efforts can be found in the following table:

Region/State	Current EPA Personnel In Field (All Venues other than EPA Offices)	Current EPA Contractor Personnel In Field	EPA Personnel in REOC	Contractor Personnel in REOC	Total
Region 2			23	3	26
New York	3	0			3
New Jersey	2	0			2
Total	5	0	23	3	31

5. Definition of Terms

Definition of Terms

Assisting and Cooperating Agencies - Agencies who are assisting the EPA response, but are not a part of Unified Command.

E Goods - Electronic machines which contain hazardous components. Emergency Response - any activity undertaken by the Operations Section which mitigated an immediate threat to human health or the environment.

FRP - Facility Response Plan. Under the Clean Water Act, as amended by the Oil Pollution Act, a plan for responding, to the maximum extent practicable, to a worst case discharge, and to a substantial threat of such a discharge, of oil. Required by certain facilities that store and use large quantities of oil.

Household Hazardous Waste - Small quantity waste from households that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive ingredients is hazardous. This includes pesticides, paint, solvents, etc.

Hazardous Debris - Debris which contains compounds that make it inappropriate for municipal landfill disposal

Monitoring - Using equipment which will give limited real-time information about constituents in environmental media. This method is used most often for air and water testing.

RCRA - Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

RMP- Risk Management Plan. Under the Clean Air Act, certain facilities with large quantities of toxic potentially air born chemicals whose releases may impact human populations are required to submit to EPA a plan for hazard assessment, prevention, and emergency response.

Sampling -The process of taking environmental media for analysis at a laboratory of its constituents. These tests may require multiple days to complete, but test for a wider array of constituents than monitors.

Small Container - any container with a potential capacity of less than 5 gallons.

TRI - Toxic Release Inventory - A publicly available EPA database that contains information on toxic chemical releases and other waste management activities reported annually by certain covered industry groups as well as federal facilities. This inventory was established under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA) and expanded by the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990.

Unified Command - A structure based on the Incident Command System (ICS) that brings together the Incident Commanders of all major organizations involved in the incident in order to coordinate an effective response, while at the same time allowing each to carry out their own jurisdictional, legal, and functional responsibilities.

White Goods - Large home electronics such as refrigerators, washing machines, and dryers.

WW - Wastewater Treatment Facilities

6. Additional sources of information

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

WEBSITE: <http://www.epaosc.org/HurricaneSandy>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EPAOSC.NET:

If you do not have a password or have never used the EPAOSC.net website before, you will need to click the login button on the top

right of the web page. Once on the login page, you will need to click on REGISTER HERE, provide the information requested and submit. This submits your request to ERT, and they will generate a user ID and password for you to enter the private side of the Website. In less than 10 minutes after registering, you should receive an e-mail from ERT SUPPORT providing the information (login and password). At this point you can then enter the website: www.epaosc.net, click on log in, then enter your information. Once logged in, click on websites, then click on Region 2. The Hurricane Irene website should be one of the first ten websites that pop up, if not, you can scroll down to find the site. Click on Hurricane Sandy. Once on the site, you can navigate to the documents that will be stored there.

If you find that you are having trouble viewing the website, please contact the EPA duty officer at (732) 906-6850

EPA Edison REOC	732-906-6850
Afterhours Notifications, National Response Center (NRC)	800-424-8802
Regional Incident Commander (RIC) for NY, James Daloia	908-420-4505
Regional Incident Commander (RIC) for NJ, Christopher Jimenez	908-420-4484
FEMA IMAT (Albany), Michael Solecki, OSC	908-420-4501
NJ EOC (Trenton), Carl Pellegrino, OSC	908- 420-4491
FEMA RRCC(Colts Neck), Steve Touw, OSC	908-420-4458
NYC OEM (Brooklyn), Margaret Chong, OSC	908-420-4477

REPORTING SCHEDULE

Situation Reports are planned for release at 1600 on a daily basis.

7. Situational Reference Materials

Situation Reports for response activities in New Jersey and New York associated with Hurricane Sandy can be found at www.epaosc.org/HurricaneSandy

General Weather for the next Operational Period: The greater New York metro area will undergo a cooling trend. It will be partly cloudy with temperatures ranging from a high of 50 to a low of 37.